

REMARKS

Claims 9,10,11,12, and 13 are being amended. Claims 1-8 and 16-19 are cancelled.
Claims 20-32 are being added.

Claims 1-6 and 19 stand rejected. Claims 9-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including any limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Claims 9-13 have been rewritten in independent form including any limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claims 9-11 have been rewritten in independent form reciting the features of base claim 1 and intervening claims 5-8. Claims 12-13 have been rewritten in independent form reciting the features of base claim 1 and intervening claims 5-7.

Independent claims 30-32 recite the features of claims indicated to be allowable, without reciting all the features of the intervening claims, and the features of the base claim.

New claim 30 includes the subject matter of claim 10, which is indicated to be allowable, claim 1 as well as the additional feature of “*wherein the detection circuit comprises a sense transistor operable to detect a collector-base voltage or a source-gate voltage of the power supply transistor, and the sense transistor is operable to conduct a current if the power supply transistor enters a linear region of operation*”. Applicant submits that this additional feature does not introduce new subject matter, see claims 7 and 18 of the claims on file.

New claim 31 includes the subject matter of claim 12, which is indicated to be allowable, and claim 1 as well as the additional feature of “*wherein the detection circuit comprises a sense transistor operable to detect a collector-base voltage or a source-gate voltage of the power supply transistor*”. Applicant submits that this additional feature does not introduce new subject matter, see claims 7 and 18 of the claims on file.

New claim 32 includes the subject matter of claim 13, which is indicated to be allowable, and claim 1 as well as the additional feature of “*wherein the detection circuit comprises a sense transistor operable to detect a collector-base voltage or a source-gate voltage of the power supply transistor*”.

As claims 9-13,30-32 recite subject matter of claims indicated to be allowable and claims 14-15 and 20-29 are dependent on a respective one of claims 9-13, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Although Applicants may disagree with statements made by the Examiner in reference to the claims and the cited references, Applicants are not discussing all these statements in the current Office Action since reasons for the patentability of each pending claim are provided without addressing these statements. Therefore, Applicants reserve the right to address these statements at a later time if necessary.

If Applicant has overlooked any additional fees, or if any overpayment has been made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit or debit Deposit Account 503079.

Respectfully submitted,

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